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RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY

RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY

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RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY

RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY

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RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 6298

RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 2772

RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 4585

RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 7553

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RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1930

RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 5704

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STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OITP KMDR KPAO JA

SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - PAKISTAN

LEAD STORIES: Top stories on Monday morning included the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force's failure to report to its leadership the fact that it underreported the amount of fuel provided to a US Navy oiler in 2003.

"War on Terror Leads to Chaos in Pakistan" The liberal Asahi editorialized (10/22): "Former Pakistani Prime Minister Bhutto, who returned home for the first time in eight years, was nearly the victim of a terrorist attack.... Pakistan is the only Muslim nation with nuclear weapons. The political situation in Pakistan, if it deteriorates, will likely have a serious impact on the international community.... The restoration and enhancement of democracy is indispensable for stabilizing Pakistan. The Pakistani government should not take advantage of the recent bombing to impose martial law or cancel the scheduled general election. The US should be pleased with the cooperation between President Musharraf and Bhutto. The US, which has focused on the war on terrorism in Afghanistan since 9/11, decided to support the military government of Pakistan. Backed by the US, the Musharraf government has worked to eliminate Islamist radicals. However, the campaign has produced little progress.... In Afghanistan, the military operations conducted by the US and other forces have hurt local residents and helped the Taliban to regain influence. Next door in Pakistan, meanwhile, Islamic fundamentalism and anti-American sentiment are rising in concert with the return of the Taliban. The so-called war on terrorism, which is an attempt to eliminate the enemy through the use of force alone, appears to be increasing

instability in the region."

SCHIEFFER